Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) Buffalo

Created: November 2010  
State agency partners: New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, New York State Office of the Attorney General  
Nongovernmental partners: A collaborative network of nearly 50 nongovernmental organizations

GHHI Buffalo is one of 17 HUD-designated GHHI pilot sites around the country. It aligns and coordinates public and private funding sources and programs for weatherization, lead hazard control, asthma control, and other home health and safety interventions in low-income homes. Homes with vulnerable populations, such as children and seniors, are given priority. GHHI Buffalo’s workforce development project brings partners together to provide training and job placement services to unemployed individuals and low-wage earners to create green and healthy housing career pathways.

The Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo is the lead coordinating agency for GHHI Buffalo. The goal is to replace silos with collective action, build on current activities, streamline processes that are duplicative or burdensome for homeowners, and build a lasting system for coordination of resources and services. The community foundation’s leadership has resulted in the creation of a system for bringing resources together in low-income homes. GHHI Buffalo plans to finalize the collaborative system by the end of 2012 and make improvements to 200 homes.

In addition to facilitating partnerships among public and private agencies and organizations, the community foundation has committed $456,000 of its own grantmaking funds, which it has leveraged with an additional $5.3 million in public and private support.

Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo  
Mission: Connecting people, ideas, and resources to improve lives in Western New York.  
Vision: A vibrant and inclusive Greater Buffalo region with opportunity for all.  
www.cfgb.org